



# THE HEALTH OF THE CITY OF TRURO 1968

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**Medical Officer of Health :**

C. W. J. HINGSTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H.

**City Public Health Inspector :**

F. MARSH, M.A.P.H.I., D.P.A.



## ERRATA

Chairman of Public Health Committee 1968 Councillor B.R. Evea  
should read "Councillor B.R. Evea" :

For Alderman A. Phillips read "Alderman A.A. Behenna"

SECRET

Chairman of Public Health Committee 1965-1966 B.R. Evans

should read "Committee B.R. Evans"

for Alberman A. Phillips read "Alberman A.A. Phillips"

# CITY OF TRURO

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1968**

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**THE MAYOR OF TRURO (Councillor K. Smith)**

**Chairman : Councillor B. R. Eva**

**Vice-Chairman : Councillor T. W. R. Christophers**

**Aldermen :**

**A. Phillips, J. B. Lodge R. J. Williams**

**Councillors :**

**Dr. Mrs. M. Andrews, A. D. Barber, J. A. A. Gauntlett,  
J. A. Hodge, E. C. Merrifield, K. J. Tonkin**

## **STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**Medical Officer of Health :**

**C. W. J. Hingston, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London),  
D.T.M. & H. (Eng., D.P.H. London).**

**Official Address—The Health Centre, The Leats, Truro  
Telephone No. Truro 2202**

**City Public Health Inspector :**

**F. Marsh, M.A.P.H.I., D.P.A.**

**Official Address—Municipal Buildings, Truro.  
Telephone No. Truro 4555**

**Additional Public Health Inspector :**

**H. Chadderton, (Cert. R.S.I.)**



Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Services for the City of Truro for the Year 1968.

With regard to infectious diseases the notable increase was that of Influenza, and figures supplied by the Department of Social Security showed a rise from mid-January to the end of March with a peak figure in mid-February. One death was reported due to Influenza.

An increase in Rubella occurred in May and June and gamma globulin was given to those women in early pregnancy who required protection. At the end of the year an increase in Mumps was reported in schools.

With regard to Measles, vaccine was given to over 140 school children in Truro by the end of 1968 and to 47 infants attending clinics in the City.

By the end of 1968 the great majority of primary school children in this Health Area who required measles immunisation had received it, and at the time of writing this report it is hoped to extend this protection to all children under 15 years of age as soon as more vaccine becomes available.

As regards Vital Statistics the population of the City showed a very slight decrease in the Birth Rate and an increase in the Death and Perinatal Mortality rates, but the figures are too small to be significant and fluctuations of this order are bound to occur. There are no significant changes in the causes of death compared with last year.

Nineteen hundred and sixty eight saw a change in the law relating to the notification of Infectious Diseases, and with this new legislation it is perhaps time to reflect on the changes that have affected our lives over the last few decades with regard to Infectious Disease. Gone are the days when special hospitals set aside for infectious diseases had wards of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever cases, and the changes in the community pattern of these two diseases is worth considering for a moment.



Since 1943 when immunisation against Diphtheria was accepted by the population at large due to war time Public Health measures, it took only ten years to reduce the annual figure of over 200 cases in Cornwall alone to less than 10, and because of continued efforts with immunisation, the last case of Diphtheria reported in Cornwall occurred in 1958.

Diphtheria still remains a killer disease but due to continuing prophylactic measures, still acceptable to the public, this disease has ceased to be a Public Health problem. Although no case has occurred for over 10 years it remains a notifiable disease because of its severity and because it is not yet totally eradicated from this country. Scarlet Fever used to be a serious disease a few decades ago, but has changed in character to a relatively mild one with few serious after effects, and is now reported only occasionally as compared with 25 years ago. There is still no effective immunisation measure against the disease, and its reduction has come about for different reasons, primarily due to a change in the virulence of the organism and to effective drugs for treatment purposes.

Thus Diphtheria, has ceased to be a serious disease in the community as a result of successful preventive measures, whereas Scarlet Fever has ceased to be a threat mainly due to natural changes that have occurred in the organism, and to the balance between the disease and man in his altered environment.

It would be foolish to believe that new drugs and vaccines alone will reduce the incidence and severity of infections as we are reminded from time to time that the virulence of some organisms has increased, and drug resistance can be a serious problem.

Certain viruses and coliform bacteria are known to be more lethal now than previously, and mutations with altered virulence continually occur. For these reasons a sense of watchfulness and anticipation is to be encouraged in those mainly concerned with the Public Health, as new legislation is often slow to come to the aid of Public Health thinking and practice.



If the 1968 legislation brought about through a new Department of Health and Social Security, has added certain diseases to the notification list, it has also indicated by withdrawal from this list the last chapter in the history of some diseases that were once important Public Health problems such as acute Rheumatism, Childbed Sickness and Pneumonia. If the amended list reflects a wider acceptance of certain diseases for notification purposes, for reasons other than their necessary control and preventive capability, would not the inclusion of Infantile Gastro-enteritis and Epidemic Vomiting Disease be justified on grounds of epidemiological research? Finally, I should like to reflect for a moment on the future of Public Health. Dr. Milton Terris of the Division of Epidemiology of New York City stated in 1963 that "Public Health is concerned with all disease whether communicable or not, and the isolation of preventive from therapeutic medicine is no longer accepted. Prevention is considered applicable not only to disease occurrence, but also to the progress of disease and disability, and it is recognised that therapeutic services often fulfil preventive functions. Public Health is now defined as the community organisation of all health services, whether concerned with prevention, therapy or rehabilitation."

If the dividing line between these services is becoming less and less distinct, then a mere change in designation from "Medical Officer of Health" to "Community Physician" will in no way alter the need, or the nature of work, of those who specialise in disease causation, control and prevention, in its relation to the environment and the Community, and I for one will regret any change in the designation of "Medical Officer of Health" to anything else.

Whatever new administrative changes might occur following Green Papers on Health Services, White Papers on the nature and size of future Local Government Areas, no legislation so far suggested is likely to change the milieu with any dramatic suddenness, or to any marked degree so as to radically alter the disease pattern in the community, based as it is on the close relationship of the environment to man.

Any such radical change in the environment is likely to come about slowly and only through legislation designed primarily to change the environment in which we live, not by legislation which at this admittedly early stage appears to be mainly concerned with a vast administrative exercise in who becomes what, or who does what in some ill-defined administrative Health Board. Let us hope that what bite it appears to lack in improving the environment, it will at least make up in its efforts to unify the separate branches of the Health Service. For the material changes that matter I welcome the future housing legislation outlined in the Housing Bill of 1969, which I hope will enable better housing conditions to come about more quickly, and I would welcome legislation even at this late hour concerning compulsory fluoridation of water supplies, as I consider it is about time this action became mandatory by Local Authorities. There will still be the need for those in authority to deal with the health problems associated with the houses we live in, the food we eat, the water we drink, and the nature of our work and the places we work in, and the many other factors that make up the environment, which if it is not favourable can be a major contributory cause in much physical and mental illness.

An adverse environment, and the illness it may help to cause, in turn necessitates an ever growing demand on the personal and sanitary health services of the community, and because I see no dramatic change in this environment in the foreseeable future, I believe the work of the Public Health Officers will of necessity continue whatever label we are asked to assume.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and all Members of the Public Health Committee for their consideration and support throughout the year, and to Mr. Marsh and his Staff for their loyal co-operation. Lastly, I would like to thank the Area Nursing Officer, Miss. V.M. Graham, and the Clerical Staff at The Leats, for their help in the personal service section of this report, and for their work throughout the year.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

C.W.J. HINGSTON

Medical Officer of Health, City of Truro

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of City (acres)	..	..	..	..	..	2,634
Population - mid 1968	..	..	..	..	..	14,500
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	4,988
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£754,684
Product of penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	£2,950 (1.4.69)
Number of houses built since 1945	..	..	..	..	..	1,969
Number of families on waiting list for houses	..	..	..	..	..	356

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

Males	113	Females	100	Total	213
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	..	..	..	..	1.03
Birth rate, per 1,000 population - Truro	..	..	..	..	15.1
Birth rate, per 1,000 population - England and Wales	..	..	..	..	16.9
Illegitimate live births:					

Males	9	Females	3	Total	12
Percentage of total live births	..	..	..	..	5.6

### Stillbirths

Males	1	Females	2	Total	3
Stillbirths rate, per 1,000 total births - Truro City	..	..	..	..	13.8
Stillbirths rate, per 1,000 total births - England and Wales	..	..	..	..	14.0

- Causes of stillbirth:-
1. Placental insufficiency
  2. Premature
  3. Foetal anoxia

### Deaths

Males	92	Females	78	Total	170
Registrar General's Comparability Factor	..	..	..	..	0.9
Death rate per 1,000 population - Truro	..	..	..	..	10.5
Death rate per 1,000 population - England and Wales	..	..	..	..	11.9



Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Male	5	Female	0	Total	5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - Truro .. .. 23.4					
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - England and Wales .. 18.0					

Deaths in Infants under 4 weeks of age

Male	5	Female	0	Total	5
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Deaths in Infants under 1 week of age

Male	5	Female	0	Total	5
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Perinatal Mortality Rate = number of stillbirths plus number of deaths under 1 week of age per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

Perinatal mortality rate Truro City .. .. 37.0

Perinatal mortality rate England and Wales .. .. 25.0

The causes of death in the first week of life were:-

1. Congestive Cardiac Failure/Myocarditis
2. Prematurity (3)
3. Foetal Anoxia

Maternal Deaths:- Nil

Birth, Death, Infant Mortality Rates since 1952 for Truro City

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>
1952	14.7	13.6	51.8
1953	14.3	12.1	42.3
1954	14.0	9.0	15.8
1955	12.9	12.1	28.4
1956	14.6	12.5	40.2
1957	12.9	11.0	17.0
1958	12.4	11.3	17.6
1959	11.9	9.8	24.5
1960	12.7	11.0	23.0

Birth, Death, Infant Mortality Rates since 1952 - Cont.

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality</u> <u>Rate</u>
1961	23.4	11.0	22.0
1962	15.2	12.3	24.0
1963	14.9	12.6	19.8
1964	14.4	9.4	15.1
1965	15.8	13.5	9.0
1966	13.7	11.4	31.4
1967	15.6	10.1	13.6
1968	15.1	10.5	23.4

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>MALES</u>			<u>FEMALES</u>		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	113	104	9	100	97	3
Stillbirths	1	1	0	2	2	0
<u>Deaths of Infants:</u>						
Under 1 year of age	5	4	1	0	0	0
Under 4 weeks of age	5	4	1	0	0	0
Under 1 week of age	5	4	1	0	0	0

INCIDENCE OF STATUTORY NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED PER QUARTER  
1968

<u>Quarters Ending:-</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u>
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	1
T.B.	1	1	-	-	2
Measles	2	-	7	2	11
<u>Notified under arrangement with Education Authority</u>					
Infective Jaundice*	7	-	3	-	10
Rubella	5	15	3	2	25
Chickenpox	2	-	-	1	3
Mumps	1	-	5	33	39

\*Under Public Health Regulations became a statutory notifiable disease in October 1968.

TABLE SHOWING DEATHS DUE TO CORONARY DISEASE AND TRURO CITY POPULATION FIGURES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Death due to Coronary Disease</u>	<u>Population</u>
1952	17	13,230
1953	14	13,350
1954	17	13,420
1955	14	13,460
1956	25	13,510
1957	22	13,540
1958	30	13,520
1959	24	13,510
1960	18	13,570
1961	27	13,460
1962	35	13,620
1963	42	13,900

Cont.

TABLE SHOWING DEATHS DUE TO CORONARY DISEASE AND TRURO CITY POPULATION FIGURES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Death due to Coronary Disease</u>		<u>Population</u>	
1964	37		14,240	
1965	34		14,290	
1966	34		14,340	
1967	48		14,430	
1968	39		14,500	

  

<u>4 year period</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Death Rate for 4 year period per 100,000</u>		
1952 - 55	62	115	"	"
1956 - 59	101	186	"	"
1960 - 63	122	223	"	"
1964 - 67	153	267	"	"



CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks.	4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS										
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over		
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -		
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -		
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M F	8 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3 4	4 -	1 -		
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M F	- 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 3		
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-		
B19(5) Leukaemia	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -		
B19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms Etc.	M F	11 13	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 1	1 1	2 1	4 -	1 5	4 4		
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M F	2 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 1		
B46(1) Other Endocrine Etc. diseases	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1		
B46(3) Mental Disorders	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -		
B46(4) Other diseases Nervous System etc.	M F	- 2	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -		
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -		
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M F	3 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	2 1		

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks.	4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS										
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over		
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M 24 F 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9	8	7		
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	M 4 F 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	10	
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	M 11 F 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	5	13	
B46(5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M 4 F 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2		
B31 Influenza	M 1 F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-		
B32 Pneumonia	M 5 F 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	M 2 F 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	
B33(2) Asthma	M - F 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
B46(6) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M 1 F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-		
B34 Peptic Ulcer	M 1 F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M 1 F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	M 1 F -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
B46(7) Other Diseases of Digestive System	M - F 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2		

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks.	4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS.										
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over		
B46(8) Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1		
B46(10) Diseases of Musculo- Skeletal System	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		
B42 Congenital Anomalies	M F	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	M F	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M F	3 -	3 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		
B45 Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1		
B47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -		
B48 All Other Accidents	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		
B49 Suicide and Self- Inflicted Injuries	M F	- 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -		
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M F	92 78	5 -	- -	- -	1 1	2 2	1 3	4 5	2 23	5 23	18 24	31 44		

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### 1. Provision for Mothers and Young Children (sec.22)

#### Child Welfare Clinics - Truro

The number attending at The Leats Child Welfare Clinic during 1968 was 3,534 children compared with 3,982 last year. The number of sessions were 50 and the average attendance per session was 71 compared with 78 last year.

#### Dental Clinic

Dental treatment was given to expectant mothers and children at the Dental Clinic at The Leats during 1968.

Ante natal clinics are held weekly at the two group practices in Lemon Street and are staffed by the Truro District Nurses/Midwives. Thus all ante natal work is carried out by G.P.s working with County Nursing Staff. Mothercraft and Relaxation classes are run in a series of eight lectures per course at The Leats Clinic and fathers are also invited to attend one lecture in each course. Six such courses were given during the year.

The Family Planning Clinic is held at The Leats and forty-six sessions were held during the year. These clinics were arranged by the Local Secretary, Mrs. Gauntlett of Truro

### 2. Midwifery Services (sec.23)

Seventy-four deliveries occurred in the home as compared with 107 last year. The gradual reduction can be accounted for with the opening and better use made of the new maternity beds at Treliske Hospital. This figure of 74 represents 34 per cent of all deliveries occurring in the home, which is soon approaching the Cranbrook Report recommendation of 30 per cent.

This change results in less work in actual deliveries by the District Midwives and an increase in the work of hospital practising Midwives.

Some reassessment is required in the distribution of work in future and one possible way of overcoming this is allowing District Midwives to practise in more General Practitioner Units. Medical aid was required in the case of one home delivery.

3. Health Visitors (sec.24)

Three thousand, nine hundred and twenty-five visits were made to pre-school children as compared with four thousand last year. Five hundred and ninety-nine visits were made to the elderly and three hundred and forty-eight special visits on social grounds, mainly to the elderly and to problem families. This compares with three hundred and seventy-five visits last year.

With regard to tuberculosis and health visiting, much has occurred since the days when Miss. Bennett of Penryn was appointed one of the first Health Visitors with special T.B. duties in the Country. The high rate of T.B. then prevailing in Cornish granite workers and the many active cases were then a public health problem. The first advent of note was the discovery of effective anti-tuberculosis drugs which in time resulted in a great reduction in the number of beds required for T.B. cases in special hospitals set aside for this disease.

The Health Visitor specialising in T.B. work today is still required to spend considerable amount of effort and time in T.B. contact work and as a result of the two cases reported this year, twenty-one people were examined as contacts, and of these two children were given a course of prophylactic drugs; three were given B.C.G. prophylactic immunisation, and the total visits were approximately fifty. A total of 393 visits were made during the year in contact work in this Health area. The present T.B. Health Visitor, Mrs. Hart, apart from her normal Health Visitor duties, covers a wide area of work on T.B. outside the City boundary and assists at the City Hospital contact clinic which itself is held approximately four times a year now instead of monthly as in the past - surely this reduction is reflective of the continued success in reducing the severity and incidence of this disease in the community.



By offering B.C.G. to those children susceptible to T.B. and selective screening of those at risk and contact tracing in known cases, there is hope that the low incidence of this disease may be reduced even further in future.

Health Education talks and demonstrations were given on forty-nine occasions.

#### Home Nursing (sec.25)

Three hundred and seventy-eight general nursing cases were visited compared with three hundred and ninety-two last year. As with previous years a large number required injections as well as nursing care.

Thirteen thousand, two hundred and seventy-two visits were made compared with eleven thousand, nine hundred and twelve last year.

#### 4. Immunisation figures for Health Area III

Since January 1968 the routine method of immunisation has changed and also the method of recording as the necessary information for the computer in County Hall called for a different system as compared with previous years.

As from 1968 the figures for Immunisation are fed back to each Health Area from information fed into the computer from County Clinics and from Family Doctor Surgeries; thus the figures quoted below cannot be compared for each sanitary district as in previous years, but will be reflected for the Health Area as a whole, i.e. City of Truro, Boroughs of Falmouth and Penryn and the Truro Rural District. These figures include those only for County Council Clinics in the whole of Health Area III.

1968 - Primary Courses Completed

Triple .. ..	230
Dip./Tetanus .. ..	25
Tetanus .. ..	34
Oral Polio .. ..	285
Measles .. ..	619

Booster Doses Given

Triple .. ..	93
Dip./Tetanus .. ..	172
Tetanus .. ..	36
Polio .. ..	565
<u>Smallpox:</u> - Primary cases ..	40
Revaccinated cases	4

According to the Department of Health and Social Security the returns for the whole of Cornwall compare favourably as regards the numbers of children immunised for Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis with those for England and Wales but the figure for Smallpox is below the National average.

5. Ambulance Service (sec.27)

This service is under direct County control through Ambulance Headquarters and thus no report on the day to day administration is given.

6. Prevention - Care and After-Care

Routine twice monthly visits to Truro City (The Leats) and Falmouth Infant Welfare Clinic were made by the Mobile X-ray Unit for the purposes of G.F. referred cases and also for those school and student Heaf positive cases requiring further examination. B.C.G. vaccination was given to 774 school children and students found to be Heaf negative in the whole of Health Area No. 3.



### Geriatric Preventive Measures and After-Care

Under the National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47, 1951 Amendment, two elderly ladies in Truro City were taken into care under this Act, being in need of care and attention. With regard to the supporting services for the elderly in the City, much continues to be done by the Old Peoples Welfare Committee. With regard to chiropody 46 sessions were undertaken by the Chiropodist and 304 visits were made to the surgery by people in need of attention for their feet. Transport was provided to the surgery for 76 people by the Old Peoples Welfare Committee.

A mobile meals service was also provided by this Committee. The extent of this service and its benefit to the elderly can be ascertained by the fact that during the last twelve months, through the organisation of Mrs. Eddy and the volunteers who work with her, some 3,037 meals were served to the elderly. Transport for this service is provided free by voluntary helpers.

Visiting the elderly in their homes is arranged through the Red Cross representatives on the Committee and the International Voluntary Service is able to give appreciative help in home decoration and garden work.

To help meet the cost of the chiropody service, grants are provided by the City Council and the County Council.

A lot of voluntary work and time is put in by the organisers and helpers and I feel we should all thank them for the valuable work which is much appreciated by the elderly in the City.

### Medical Loans

A supply of domiciliary aids for the handicapped is available through the Health Area Office and a wide variety of other equipment required in the home such as bed pans, urinals and bed rests are obtainable through the County Welfare Department and the British Red Cross Society.

### Yellow Fever Innoculations

The Leats is a registered centre for this immunisation and during 1968 two hundred and forty-one cases were immunised prior to going abroad as compared with 248 last year.

### Cervical Cytology

Cervical smear clinics have continued in Truro and at Falmouth. Out of the total of 819 cases seen at these clinics during 1968, cancer was detected in one case; this was not a resident of Truro City.

### Home Helps (sec.29)

Seventy one cases in the City area were given Home Help Service during 1968.

C I T Y   O F   T R U R O

CITY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT 1968

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for 1968. The most important matters considered by the Public Health Committee during the year were the Highertown and Malpas Sewerage schemes, the improvement of dwellings with the five standard amenities, refuse disposal and the rotation of perishable food stocks in retail shops. The Housing Committee saw the fruition of several years work with the letting of the one hundred and sixty one houses and flats at Rosedale Estate, Trehaverne.

Rapid strides were made in the provision of the new Highertown sewer after Ministry permission had been received at the end of 1967. Early in 1968 the City Council agreed to accept sewage from the village of Threemilestone into the Highertown sewer and the River Authority accepted the necessity for a temporary increase of overload at the Newham works in order that the provision of main sewers for Highertown and Threemilestone might be proceeded with as a matter of urgency. In July the first stage contract was agreed and work started in November. The total cost of the provision of the Highertown sewer through the Penweathers valley and the reconstruction of the Newham Disposal Works will be in the region of £185,000. Towards the end of the year the Ministry agreed to re-open consideration of the Malpas village sewerage scheme and it is hoped that 1969 will bring favourable decisions on its urgency.

The Committee pursued its policy of persuading owners to improve their houses and a survey was made of 1,779 dwellings on the eastern side of the City. This, coupled with the survey made in 1967 in the western area, showed that of a total of 2,584 dwellings under enquiry only 277 lacked some or all of the five standard amenities.

The Committee decided not to declare Improvement areas but to increase their efforts at persuasion as soon as the new Improvement Grants were introduced. Details are given on page 24.

Refuse Disposal is rapidly becoming an acute problem in the City area and a great deal of exploratory work was done during the year into the alternatives which could be utilised. Refuse tips arouse a good deal of public indignation wherever they are sited but the fact remains that 4,650 tons of refuse are collected in the City and several thousand more tons are brought to the tip every year and must be disposed of. Details are given on page 28.

The Public Health Committee considered at length the problem of stock rotation of perishable foods and members expressed their anxiety over the lack of information available to the purchaser. It asked for pressure to be brought to bear upon manufacturers to so mark their perishable foodstuff wrappers by means of a date stamp so that the consumer can readily determine the length of time for which the food will remain in good condition. The date stamping of perishables has been a vexed question for a very long time and whilst it appears feasible for perishable foods having a seven to ten day life (indeed many manufacturers have introduced this practice for such foods) there are many pros and cons when considering a perishable food which may only have a life of two to three days. It is also true that the retailer must bear a large measure of responsibility for keeping food in good condition by proper stock rotation and careful buying. A big contribution to this problem would be to give local authorities power to insist on the provision and use of proper cold storage facilities for perishable foodstuffs.

I again express my appreciation for the support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, who have been so helpful and interested in the work of the Department, to Dr. Hingston for his help and advice, and to the staff and workpeople of the Department for their loyal service during the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. MARSH

City Public Health Inspector



## HOUSING

### Provision of New Houses

145 dwellings were built by the Council and 67 were provided by private enterprise during the year.

The Council had a waiting list of 356 applicants at the end of the year compared with 610 at the end of 1967. The reduction in the number of applicants was achieved by the large number of lettings during the year (160) and by restricting entry to the Housing List to avoid acceptance of applications from persons having no association with the City who would not in the foreseeable future be offered accommodation in the City area.

The Council now owns 1,600 dwellings of all kinds. During the year the Housing Committee decided to concentrate its efforts on the provision of more Old People's Dwellings and obtained Ministry permission to build thirty two Old People's flats in the James Place area. Besides these the Ministry agreed that the City Council should build three houses in Truro Veian Terrace, that the Municipal Charities should replace the old Almshouses by eight Old People's Dwellings and that the British Legion should build twenty five dwellings at Trennick Villa for ex-service people.

The City Council agreed in principle to the request of Consolidated Gold Fields Limited for an option to purchase land owned by the Council at St. Clement Hill. Approximately ten acres are involved and providing the Company go into production on their Janes Mine project they will provide housing accommodation for their workers on this site.

### Inspection and the Repair of Houses

This work consisted of the inspection of houses following complaints from occupiers, inspections in connection with the Unfit House programme and the repair of houses in conjunction with improvement grants. 408 inspections were made and 573 repairs and improvements were effected to dwellinghouses after action by your Inspectors. Details are listed on pages 45 and 46.

## Unfit House Programme

In the past thirteen years 434 unfit houses have been dealt with. 308 have been demolished, 12 are awaiting demolition and the remainder have been closed. 333 families have been rehoused, 6 are awaiting rehousing and 101 have made provision for themselves.

### Progress Report 1st April 1956 - 31st December 1968

#### Clearance Areas

Number of houses dealt with .. .. .	174
Houses purchased by agreement or already Corporate Property ..	165
Houses still under negotiation to purchase .. .. .	1
Houses demolished .. .. .	162
Houses awaiting demolition .. .. .	12
Families rehoused .. .. .	132
Families awaiting rehousing .. .. .	-
Houses from which rehousing not necessary .. .. .	42

#### Individual Unfit Houses

Number of houses dealt with .. .. .	260
Families rehoused .. .. .	201
Families awaiting rehousing .. .. .	6
Houses from which rehousing not necessary .. .. .	59
Houses purchased by agreement or already Corporate property ..	78
Houses demolished .. .. .	146
Closing Orders changed to Demolition Orders .. .. .	31
City Council properties closed voluntarily in 1968 .. .. .	4
Closing Order rescinded after houses made fit .. .. .	34

Twenty four individual unfit houses were dealt with either by Closing Order or voluntary closure by the Public Works Committee where corporate property was involved. Many of the privately owned houses will come back into use after reconditioning and improvement.



## Reconditioning and Improvement of Houses

The Council's policy of persuading owners to recondition and further improve their houses continued during the year but work in connection with improvement grants virtually came to a halt later in the year when the Government announced its new proposals for grants. Owners preferred to wait for higher grants and the prospect that some repairs would rank for grant in the new scheme. The number of houses improved to the five amenity standard in the six year period 1962-67 was 206. In 1968 it was only 21.

The Housing Committee made a contract in November for the improvement of 39 houses on Hendra Estate at a cost of £27,250 and work is proceeding. The remaining 54 houses on the estate will be improved in two sections in the near future.

A report was made by the Department on the need of improvements to eight houses in Charles Street which are owned by the City Council. As the Housing Committee is committed to heavy expenditure in the future on Hendra and Trelander Estates it could only agree at this stage that Charles Street should be included in the overall improvement proposals.

A survey of 1,779 houses in the eastern side of the City to ascertain the numbers which were improved to the five amenity standard was carried out during the summer and the complete figures for the City are as follows. Houses which were built after 1945 or which are included in the -15 year City Centre redevelopment plan were excluded from the surveys

Number of dwellings under enquiry .. .. .	2,584
Dwellings with all facilities .. .. .	2,307
Dwellings lacking facilities .. .. .	277

	<u>Owner/occupier</u>	<u>Tenanted</u>
With only 4 facilities	15	26
With only 3 facilities	19	8
With only 2 facilities	11	4
With only 1 facility	30	10
With no facilities	64	90

The new Improvement Grant proposals published during the year were welcome. Higher grants and more flexible conditions attached thereto will make improvement more attractive. Just over 5% of the dwellings in the City lack one or more of the five standard amenities (i.e. bath or shower, wash basin, hot water, internal W.C. and food store) and approximately 3% lack all five amenities. The Public Health Committee decided to address a personal letter from its Chairman to all owners of unmodernised houses when the new grant structure comes into being.

#### Houses in Multiple Occupation

Concern was felt by the Public Health Committee at the tendency for large old houses to develop into houses in multiple occupation and in September it adopted a standard which set out in more detail the requirements as to condition of such houses under Section 15 (1) Housing Act 1961.

#### Welfare Services to Old People's Accommodation

The day to day administration of these services is done by the City Public Health Inspector, who is also the Council's Housing Officer.

Twelve wardens are employed to look after two hundred and twenty two old people's flats, bungalows and bedsitter flatlets which are in fifteen groups of three to thirty eight dwellings. Thirty six bungalows, one flat and a Warden's flat were completed at Rosedale Estate, Trehaverne in 1968. It is hoped that 1969 will see the start of thirty two more flats for old people at a site in James Place which is convenient for the town centre. The welfare services cover wardens, telephones and push bell systems, garden maintenance, window cleaning, laundry and meals where necessary, internal decoration and chiropody.

There was an expenditure of approximately £5,075 during the year 1968/9 and an estimate of £6,135 for 1969/70, being an average of approximately £27.10.0 per dwelling for the year.

The Welfare Sub Committee, formed of members from both the Housing and Public Health Committees, was concerned during the year that many of the Old People's flats and bungalows built ten to fifteen years ago are well below the standards of those being provided at the present time.

It decided that as monies could be spared upgrading of the older Old People's dwellings should be done and listed its priorities in this respect as

- (a) the provision of bell systems at Tregurra bungalows and Festival Gardens bungalows and extensions of bell systems from bedrooms to bathrooms generally
- (b) the provision of additional hand and grab rails to baths and a second handrail to all stairs
- (c) the provision of doors to kitchens at Carlyon Close
- (d) the provision of immersion heaters to the older dwellings. The lack of heating to bathrooms was discussed and a decision on action deferred until 1969.

A survey of ninety Old People's Dwellings was made to gather information to assist the Housing Committee in deciding which type of heating to install in the thirty two proposed flats at James Place. The information obtained varied so much with age, degree of frailness, personal income, medical conditions and whether it was a single person or a married couple that only general conclusions could be drawn as follows:-

1. It seems quite clear that the frail elderly need more heating for longer periods than the more active elderly and the form of heating for the frail must exclude lifting heavy buckets of fuel and shaking heavy ashgrates.
2. The more active elderly often, depending on weather conditions and their social commitments, do not require more than a minimum of heat until noon and in many cases just before tea.
3. Personal income had a big effect on the type and amount of heating. In a few cases the amount of fire in the grate was merely a token and would not adequately heat the room or hot water.
4. The majority were only heating one room adequately and consequently other rooms were often subject to condensation. The majority thought that a radiant fire was necessary as a focal point in the livingroom. As substantial amounts are being spent on fuel it may be possible to utilise some system which will adequately heat the livingroom and give background heat to the other rooms at approximately the same cost.



5. Those who were in favour of communal heating made the points that any charge for this included in the rent should be based on the amount of heat used in the individual dwelling and the amount to be used should be controlled by the person concerned. Their budgets are so finely controlled that it would cause hardship to exceed a certain limit unless some supplementary allowance was given.
6. Forty per cent preferred open fires, fifty per cent preferred communal heating with costs included in the rent and ten per cent preferred other methods.

The Housing Committee decided to heat the proposed flats by oiled fired group central heating. It is also experimenting with the Grate Heat Warm Air System using solid fuel and has one bungalow equipped with this system. After trials the Committee will decide whether to install this system in other existing bungalows.

#### Disabled Persons Bungalows and Flats

The Housing Committee adapted two Old People's bungalows at Rosedale Estate for disabled persons and these are now occupied by two ladies who suffer from arthritis. It is not easy to adapt a partially built bungalow for a different type of living but wider sliding doors, wider passages, shower baths and seats, gas fires, cupboards and shelves at proper heights, kitchen heaters etc. will make life in a wheel chair a little easier. The Committee decided to provide four flats for disabled people in the James Place area in 1969/70.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

The administration of all public cleansing services in the City is the responsibility of your Inspector.

#### Employees

These services have an establishment of twenty five men, four women full time and five women part time. Delivery of the mechanical sweeper brought a reduction, by four, of the men employed on street sweeping.

This was achieved without redundancy. Fewer men means more difficulty in covering holidays and sickness. Almost every man is trained to do other jobs or drive other vehicles when the need arises. Without this interchange the Department could not cope. There is promotion within the service to encourage young men to join and stay in the Department.

### Refuse Collection

Weekly collections are made from 4,988 dwellinghouses and from daily to weekly at nearly 500 trade premises. A kerbside collection is in operation with three full time vehicles and crews of three collectors and a driver together with a fourth vehicle to make special collections of refuse, collect street sweepings and cover breakdowns of the other three. The vehicles were purchased in 1967, 1965, 1963 and 1959 and in accordance with Council policy are held for ten years. A new vehicle of larger capacity is to be ordered for delivery in April 1970.

The introduction of British Standard Time caused some difficulties in all the Cleansing Services during the winter but it was decided not to alter working hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Floodlights were installed at the Council Depot and employees were issued with fluorescent jackets. There was no loss of time due to the darkness but it is true that men work more efficiently in daylight than in the dark.

The City Council collects refuse on behalf of Truro Rural District Council in part of the village of Malpas.

### Refuse Disposal

The Council operates a controlled refuse tip at Newham on the edge of Calenick Creek where low lying ground is being raised to the height of the adjoining sewage works. The refuse is placed, consolidated and covered by a Massey Ferguson Crawler Tractor Shovel purchased in 1965. Charges are still in force for the tipping of materials from private sources when a daily quota of four loads has been exceeded. The Truro Rural District Council tips refuse from certain of its parishes at Newham.

The area of ground at Newham which can be used for tipping on the present basis diminishes rapidly. Any extension of the tip will require planning permission and as outlined in last year's report there is no point in asking for this permission unless such an extension is a practical proposition. The Public Health Committee discussed refuse disposal in some form or other almost every month of the year. In January the Committee considered a proposal that Falmouth and Penryn Boroughs and Truro Rural District should consider a scheme of incineration of refuse and felt that unless Camborne/Redruth Urban District joined in to provide a large enough population to allow such a plant to be run economically it would be very costly. Advice from the Ministry later appeared to indicate that even on a consortia of districts basis incineration was not economic in the County. In February and March the Truro Rural District asked if the City Council might be interested in a joint scheme for the pulverisation of refuse. Even this method is dependent on the use of tips. The City Council informed the Rural District of the progress being made in investigating the possibility of an extension to Newham tip. A sum of £200 was provided in Estimates to make an experimental cut in Calenick Creek to ascertain whether the direction of the channel could be changed. The Truro Rural District Council informed the City Council that sympathetic consideration would be given to the City Council's proposals on receipt of further information after the proposed experiments had been carried out. Officers of the City Council met residents of Calenick village in August. The residents were perturbed at any proposal to extend the tip, were worried about the possibility of flooding and maintained that the tip was unsightly. In September the Council's river dredger cut a channel in the mud at Calenick Creek and authority was sought to extend the cut channel. A temporary dam was constructed to divert the stream water from the old channel to the new cut. The experiment showed that the stream could be successfully diverted and the cut worked well until winter rains destroyed the temporary dam.



In November the County Planning Officer arranged a meeting between Officers of Falmouth, Truro and Penryn Boroughs, Truro Rural District, Kerrier Rural District and Camborne-Redruth Urban District with a view to preparing a long term plan for the disposal of refuse. The County Planning Department wished to look at the problem from a 30 - 50 year period and to allocate sites as part of the County development plan for the reclamation of derelict land in the County. It appeared that Falmouth and Penryn Boroughs, Truro Rural District and Truro City had long term problems and at a further meeting in December it was recommended that a joint Committee of the four authorities be set up to discuss the provision of possible tip sites. As long term sites will probably be situated in the Rural District, the Rural Council has taken the lead in initiating enquiries about possible sites. One possibility has been abandoned because of mining interests. What appears to be waste and derelict land to some has immense value to others. A second site is now being investigated.

The work which was put into the Calenick Creek investigation by the Harbour Master and Captain and crew of the City Council's dredger is greatly appreciated.

#### Civic Amenities Act 1967

The Public Health Committee designated Newham Tip as the place within Truro City where residents may deposit household refuse free of charge. The Committee decided to keep the tip open on Saturday mornings for the convenience of householders and widely advertised this facility in the press.

#### Street Cleansing

The change from hand sweeping with seven orderly beats to a system of suction road sweeping combined with hand sweeping was effected in November. A double sweep suction sweeper capable of sweeping one way streets was purchased from Johnston Brothers. Four street orderlies were retained of the former establishment of eight and the change was achieved by retirements and transfers to other services. The length of County and City roads swept is 33.83 miles.



About fifteen miles of gutter and footpaths are swept by three street orderlies in the City Centre with a frequency of twice daily to weekly and the suction sweeper cleans the gutters of fifty three miles weekly (4 miles of this done daily) with one street orderly picking up litter from footpaths on the route of the machine. The suction sweeper cleans approximately fourteen miles of gutter each day, Monday to Friday. It also works, together with one street orderly Saturday and Sunday mornings. Mechanisation brought problems. The emptying of litter bins in outer areas had to be reorganised; sickness or holidays amongst the hand orderlies was difficult to cover and usually had to be done at the expense of the fourth orderly; teething troubles with the mechanical sweeper meant a large loss of sweeping time which could not be replaced; some areas resented the loss of their street orderly who had given their roads his personal attention. On the whole, however, the machine is doing what was expected of it and the disadvantages of mechanisation are far outweighed by advantages.

#### Cesspool and Street Gully Cleansing

681 cesspools and 43 sludge pits were emptied during the year. 1,171 loads were disposed of. A new Shelvoke and Drewry gully/cesspit emptier machine was delivered in October 1968. Its capacity is 1100 gallons. 429½ hours by the machine and 106½ by hand were spent on gully and catchpit cleansing. The larger capacity machine should give increased efficiency by reducing the number of loads to be taken to the tip and allow more time to be spent on gully cleansing. Cesspit emptier sewage is discharged into lagoons at Newham tip. These facilities are shared by the Rural District Council.

#### Public Conveniences

There are eight conveniences for ladies, eight for men, one each for boys and girls and one urinal in the City Area. They are cleansed by five full time and five part time attendants. The replacement conveniences on The Green Car Park came into use in June.

Hot water supplies have still to be provided in the Moorfield, Pydar Street, Boscawen Park, Hendra Playing Fields and Victoria Gardens Conveniences. The Improvements Committee allocated a site for new public conveniences on the Old Bridge Street Shoppers Car Park and it is expected that a start will be made on these in 1969. The Public Health Committee decided to incorporate in the conveniences to be built at Old Bridge Street a specially equipped compartment for the wheel chair disabled. It is hoped that in 1969 two closet compartments in The Green Car Park conveniences will be adapted for use by ambulant disabled. The conveniences at Victoria Gardens and Hendra Playing Fields are in urgent need of upgrading.

#### RODENT AND INSECT CONTROL

##### Rats and Mice

Properties inspected specifically for rodents	347
Premises infested by (i) rats	142
(ii) mice	19
Visits made by rodent operative	418
Visits made by your Inspectors to infestations	147

No charges are made for work carried out on private dwellinghouses and in the cases of business premises the charges are based on the actual cost of the work.

##### Sewer Treatment

10% test baiting of sewers for rats was carried out in February. Of the 68 test points laid there were 15 complete, 24 partial and 29 no takes. A maintenance treatment of 88 sewer manholes was then carried out.

##### Insects

18 flea, fly and cockroach infestations were treated and assistance given in the destruction of 31 wasp nests.

Rodent and pest control continued at the premises of the Hospital Board within the City area.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

533 inspections of drainage systems were made. The following works were completed during the year.

1. Provision of a new sewer in Idless Road, Trehaverne to enable eighteen properties to go on to main drainage.
2. Provision of a new sewer at the rear of Little Castle Street to take the discharges of five houses out of the river.
3. Provision of a new sewer in Trehaverne Terrace to enable six properties to go on to main drainage.
4. Provision of the Newham Road sewer outfall overflow pump to enable the main outfall sewer to be diverted to allow emergency work to be carried out from time to time at the Disposal works.

The following work was in hand.

Highertown Sewerage Scheme.

The Public Health Committee accepted the principle of

Sewering Old Falmouth Road as an extension of the Highertown scheme.

The following works are still necessary.

1. Sewering of Malpas village.
2. Sewering of the Kenwyn Church area.
3. Renewal of the existing sewer at the rear of Ferristown, Frances Street and Little Castle Street to keep out ground water.
4. Provision of storm water sewers in Richmond Hill and Kenwyn Road/Pydar Street.

## INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

### Factories

Inspection of all the factories included on the register were made during the year. Details are in the tables below. Forty-five defects were found and the same number remedied. No outworkers were known or notified during the year.

### INSPECTIONS

Premises	No. on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	7	4	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	85	85	-	-
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out worker's premises)	6	6	-	-
TOTAL	98	98	4	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted.		
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspec- tor.	By H.M. Inspec- tor.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	16	16	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp- erature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage to floor (S.6.)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	8	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork).	17	17	-	-	-
TOTAL	45	45	-	-	-



### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Thirty seven premises were registered during the year, giving a total of 406 registrations. 118 premises received a general inspection. 65 informal notices were served for 226 contraventions of the Act. 128 improvements were obtained as listed on page 46. 12 accidents were reported and investigated. None were fatal.

#### REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	10	185	35
Retail Shops	22	168	74
Whole. Shops & Warehouses	2	27	6
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	3	24	2
Fuel Storage Depot	-	2	1
TOTALS	37	406	118

## ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

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Section	Number of contraventions found
<hr/>	
4      Cleanliness	3
5      Overcrowding	1
6      Temperature	31
7      Ventilation	3
8      Lighting	17
9      Sanitary Conveniences	36
10     Washing Facilities	21
11     Supply of Drinking Water	8
12     Clothing Accommodation	6
13     Sitting Facilities (Shops)	2
15     Eating Facilities	2
16     Floors, Passages, Stairs	27
24     First Aid	25
50     Information for Employees	40
Other Matters	4
<hr/>	
TOTAL	226
<hr/> <hr/>	

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED  
PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	1,490
Retail Shops	991
Wholesale departments, warehouses	261
Catering establishments open to the public	182
Canteens	15
Fuel Storage Depots	12
<hr/>	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>2,951</u>
<u>Total Males</u>	<u>1,359</u>
<u>Total Females</u>	<u>1,592</u>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

Thirty five Distributors of milk are registered with the City Council.

The arrangement whereby the Cornwall County Council's Public Health Department samples extensively in the City area, pursuant of the power of granting licences, continued. The City Council has the right to take samples and will exercise this right should the amount of sampling ever fall below that which would normally be undertaken by the City Council or if other circumstances warrant this action. Details of samples taken by the County Council are:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested Milk	9	1
Pasteurised Milk	49	2
Sterilised Milk	2	-

### Ice Cream

Fifty two premises are registered for the sale of ice cream and one premise using a soft ice cream machine is registered as a manufactory. 53 samples were taken and graded as follows:-

Grade I - 44      Grade II - 4      Grade III - 2      Grade IV - 3

Inspections of ice cream vehicles in June resulted in the Proprietor of two vehicles agreeing to take them off the road until they complied with the necessary hygiene regulations.

### Clotted Cream

Thirty samples of creams - clotted, single, double, synthetic and whipping - were taken during the year. It is hoped that this participation in County wide sampling together with that being carried out in other parts of the country will help the Ministries concerned in their consideration of bacteriological standards for these creams.

### Condemnation of Food

851 certificates were issued for the voluntary surrender of 8,998 lbs. of unsound food from shops in the City. 3,877 lbs. of diseased meat were condemned at the slaughterhouse.

### Complaints relating to food

The Council dealt with the following complaints:-

Piece of metal in pudding	Mouldy portion of chicken
Mouldy fruit pies	Unsound canned ham
Fibrous material in loaf	Unsound pressed beef
Mouldy Pork Pie	

No prosecutions were taken but severe warnings were issued to the manufacturers or retailers concerned.

In September all retailers in the City were written about the rotation of stocks. The letter expressed the concern of the Public Health Committee, at the number of complaints received in 1968 about the sale, by retailers, of mouldy prepacked foods.

It warned that if the number of complaints of this nature continued the City Council would exercise its statutory powers of prosecution.

In December, the City Council approved the following resolution of the Public Health Committee

"that in view of the Committee's anxiety of this lack of information to the purchaser, representations be made to the Association of Municipal Corporations, the Board of Trade, the Cornwall County Health Committee, the Standing Committee of Women's Organisations and the Consumer Association asking for pressure to be brought to bear upon Manufacturers so as to mark their perishable foodstuff wrappers by means of a date stamp so that the customer can readily determine the length of time for which the food will remain in good condition".

#### Registration of Food Premises

Twelve premises are registered for the preparation or manufacture of potted, pickled or preserved foods.

#### Inspection of Food Premises

There are 174 food premises in the City plus a minimum of one hundred bed and breakfast houses. 202 inspections were made and 79 improvements obtained. The premises of all who advertise food and accommodation in the official Handbook of the City or through the Enquiry Bureau are inspected. The premises used as hotels and guest houses are compared with the standards set by the Cornwall Holiday and Tourist Association. These standards are based on those issued by the British Travel Association.

#### Poultry

There are no poultry processing plants in the City area.

#### Meat Inspection

Slaughtering is carried out at one private slaughterhouse in the City and three slaughtermen are licensed. 4,134 animals were killed and inspected.



CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN 1968

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. Killed	529	97	2,187	1,321
No. Inspected	529	97	2,187	1,321
<hr/>				
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	8	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	190	-	540	162
<hr/>				
Tuberculosis only:				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	26
<hr/>				
Cysticercosis				
(a) Carcasses detained in deep freeze	-	-	-	-
(b) Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
(c) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-
<hr/>				
Weights of diseased meat condemned	2,190 lbs	-	985 lbs.	702 lbs.

# FOOD PREMISES IN CATEGORIES OF TRADE

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960				
Category	No.	Number comply- ing with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	Number comply- ing with Reg. 19
Grocers	39	36	39	39
Mixed	12	12	10	9
Confectioners	5	5	5	5
Sweets	7	7	3	3
Butchers	12	12	12	12
School Canteens	15	15	15	15
Office and Factory Canteens	7	7	7	7
Chemists	6	6	6	6
Wholesale Ware- houses	6	3	2	2
Wines and Spirits	4	4	4	4
Fried Fish Shops	5	5	5	5
Wet Fish Shops	3	3	3	3
Cafes and Snack Bars	18	18	18	18
Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
Licensed Premises	21	21	21	21
Hotels	13	13	13	13
TOTALS	174	168	164	163

Regulation 16 requires suitable and sufficient wash basins with hot and cold water (or temperature controlled hot water) soap, nail brushes, towels etc. - Where no open food is handled cold water is sufficient.

Regulation 19 requires suitable and sufficient sinks with hot and cold water (or temperature controlled hot water) except in certain circumstances, together with soap, cloths and cleaning and drying facilities.

## WATER SUPPLIES

From 1st April, 1968 the South Cornwall Water Board took over the supplies to the City from the Truro Water Company Limited and during the year water from the original source at Tregurra has been augmented by supplies from Stithians Treatment Works.

The pH value of the raw water at both sources is in the order of 6.8 to 7.2 and the final treated water to supply is in the order of 8.2 to 8.6.

The treatment is by alumina ferric coagulant and lime with sterilization by chlorine and by sedimentation tanks and either pressure or rapid gravity filters.

The bacteriological and chemical quality of the water supplied to the area is satisfactory; 51 samples being taken by your Inspectors and 90 by the Board. The water is not plumbo solvent and the analyses show that the fluoride content is less than 0.1 ppm.

Three samples of water were taken from private supplies. All were from the New Mills area and were unsatisfactory. Almost all the houses in the City are supplied from the public mains. The exceptions are isolated groups of houses on the outskirts at Three Corners, New Mills and parts of Penweathers.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the City area.

### Caravan Sites

One large site of eighty residential caravans and five other individual sites are licensed under the Caravan Sites Act 1960.

### Private Swimming Pools

Swimming Pool waters were tested at three private schools by your Inspectors for residual chlorine and pH value.

### Pet Animals Act 1951

Two pet shops are licensed under this Act.

### Noise Abatement Act 1960

Following the Ministry's Circular 22/67 on Industrial Noise two inspectors attended a Noise Control course at Cornwall Technical College on one evening for six weeks. At the request of the Improvements Committee your Inspector wrote to every contractor who from time to time might work in the City drawing their attention to the necessity of reducing noise from pneumatic tools and enclosing for their information the Ministry Advisory Leaflet 72 on Noise Control on Building Sites.

### Burial of Poor Persons

In June the Public Health Committee gave consideration to the alternative of cremation to burial in these cases. It was decided to make no change in present arrangements as cremation costs were £8 above those of burial.

### Fouling of Footpaths by Dogs

The flagrant disregard for the byelaw which prohibits the fouling of footpaths by dogs was discussed by the Public Health Committee in June, July and September. Notices under the Byelaws are available free of charge from the Public Health Inspector's office to any person who wishes to exhibit them. The Committee decided to take space in the Press to publicise the Byelaws; to declare the Council's intention to prosecute on evidence being given; authorised the Town Clerk to do so and asked him to investigate the possibility of increasing the penalty in respect of the Byelaws.

### Administration

In March the Public Health Committee examined the procedure for the issue of certificates, licences and registrations and their renewal and took steps to speed up these issues. The City Council agreed that in certain cases the City Public Health Inspector should issue or renew the licences and report later; that in other cases the necessary certificate, licence or registration be issued immediately after approval by the Public Health Committee.

INSPECTIONS MADE . .

Dwellinghouses inspected	408	Visits re disinfection	1
Council Houses inspected	227	Swimming Pools inspected	15
Visits re rehousing	789	Visits re Shops & Offices Act	360
Visits re Public Cleansing	338	Visits re Welfare Services	42
Visits to Clearance Areas	3	Food Premises inspected	202
Public Conveniences inspected	41	Factories inspected	107
Visits re drainage work	533	Visits re nuisances	108
Visits re rodent & pest control	147	Caravan sites inspected	10
Miscellaneous inspections	274	Hackney Carriages inspected	32
Sanitary Accommodation of Schools inspected	7	Shops Act inspections	11
Pet Shops inspected	3	Farms & Piggeries inspected	5
Water supplies inspected	1	Dangerous Structures inspected	3
Burial of Poor Persons	1	Clean Air Act	14
Place of Entertainment	2		



## IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

### Housing

Cooking facilities provided	1	Cesspits provided	2
Staircases provided, repaired or renewed	6	Hot water supply provided	1
Houses disinfected or disinfested	13	Lighting improved	2
Roofs repaired	24	Bath or showers provided	6
Gutters and fallpipes repaired	18	Wash basins with hot and cold water supply provided	8
Doors and windows repaired	71	Rooms decorated	51
Chimneys, firegrates and flues repaired	13	Dustbins provided	7
Dampness abated	32	Closets provided or repaired	14
Walls repaired	15	Choked drains cleared	38
Floors repaired	27	Drains repaired or renewed	7
Ceilings repaired or renewed	32	Nuisances abated	4
Other defects remedied	35	Sinks and internal water supplies provided	2
All five amenities provided	39	Houses connected to sewer	6
Yard surfaces repaired	19	Accumulations removed	5
Plaster repaired	54	New kitchens provided	9
Bathrooms provided	12	Conversions to flats	9

### Factories

Defects remedied	45
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### Food Premises

Wash basins or sinks provided	12
Walls, floors and ceilings repaired	6
Rooms redecorated	9
Water closets provided or repaired	3
Other defects remedied	37
Drains repaired	4
Ventilation provided	4
Dustbins provided	4

### Shops and Offices

Ventilation provided	11
New water closets provided	4
Adequate artificial lighting provided	12
Wash basins or sinks provided	13
Staff room provided	2
Walls, floors and ceilings renewed	5
Hot and Cold water supply provided	3
Adequate guards to meat slicing machines provided	4
Drains repaired or renewed	4
Other defects remedied	55
Rooms redecorated	3
Thermometers provided	5
First Aid kits provided	4
Drinking water provided	3



